



General Assembly

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Committee on Relations with the Host Country

Letter dated 10 August 2010 from the Minister Counsellor for Host Country Affairs of the United States Mission to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country

I have the honour to enclose a copy of a note verbale dated 5 August 2010 that has been sent by the United States Mission to the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations in response to its note of 26 July 2010 regarding a demonstration at that Mission's premises (see annex).

I request that you circulate the attached diplomatic note as a document of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country.

(Signed) Russell E. **Graham**
Minister Counsellor for
Host Country Affairs

**Annex to the letter dated 10 August 2010 from the Minister
Counsellor for Host Country Affairs of the United States Mission
to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Committee
on Relations with the Host Country**

The United States Mission to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations and refers to the latter's note verbale of 26 July 2010 regarding a small demonstration that took place, initially in front of the Permanent Mission, and subsequently across Lexington Avenue, on Friday, 23 July 2010.

A record provided to the United States Mission by the 17th Precinct of the New York City Police Department indicates that the Permanent Mission called the 911 emergency response number at 11.19 a.m. on 23 July from a Cuban Mission telephone line that was recorded as having been 212-689-2356. The record further shows that the police responded to the Mission three minutes later, at 11.22 a.m., and reported that at that time there were no demonstrators in front of the Permanent Mission, the demonstrators having moved across Lexington Avenue of their own will, to the approved demonstration area.

The New York City Police Department reports that their officers departed the vicinity of the Mission at 11.26 a.m., doing so only after the police determined that the group of demonstrators posed no threat to the Permanent Mission, its members or the public at large.

The United States Mission therefore views the police response as rapid, appropriate and wholly satisfactory.

The United States Mission would also note that rapidity and adequacy of the response is the result, in part, of the good coordination between the Permanent Mission of Cuba and the Department of State's Diplomatic Security Service at a meeting that took place between those two entities on 22 July 2010. Following that meeting, the Diplomatic Security Service contacted the New York City Police Department to advise it of the possibility of an unannounced demonstration at the Cuban Mission on the following day. Because there was no indication as to what time the demonstration might begin, the police did not dispatch officers to the Mission, but provided a directed patrol of the immediate area. This enabled the police to respond unusually rapidly to the Mission premises once Mission personnel called the 911 line. The United States Mission is also aware of a demonstration that took place on Monday, 26 July, at the Mission. As that demonstration was scheduled rather than impromptu and was therefore known to the police, police were deployed to the Cuban Mission in advance of and for the entire time the demonstrators were present in the area of the Mission.

The host country and the New York Police Department remain committed to ensuring the physical security of the Permanent Mission and of its members, and count on the continuing valuable cooperation of the Permanent Mission in informing United States and New York City authorities whenever it believes an unannounced demonstration or other disruption might occur.

The United States Mission to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations the assurances of its highest consideration.